

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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LB 512

amendment, I'm completely vulnerable to you. If you will allow this to be put on and to be put on then on Final Reading, you will have time to think about it. You will have time to hear from people. You will have the judges, everybody out there will have time to see exactly what has been approved by the Legislature. And in your wisdom if you don't like it at that point in time, you can reject it. There's no problem in doing that. There won't be any secrets. It will all be laid out there. But I'm confident, I'm confident that when that does happen that most people are going to say you're doing a very good thing, that it makes sense to appoint the clerks of the district court because on a whole long term we will get better managers and that's what these people are. They're managers. They're not policymakers. They're not people that should be elected. And so if the judges, and we're empowering judges here to appoint these people, they should be able to find the people that work with them and work well with records and are good managers of people. Secondly, we pick up the cost of the personnel and the data processing. That should have been state funded all along. We are finally getting around to picking that up. That's very important. For those of you who are in Douglas County, doing this amendment represents \$2 million to Douglas County. It's very, very important I think to Douglas County. I hope you will keep that in mind when you're voting. But it's not just Douglas County that this bill affects as did 512. LB 512 had a very limited applicability to four or five counties. This amendment has a broad applicability to 70 to 80 counties so it's a bill that's good across the board. It's good for an awful lot of communities. It makes that broad kind of property tax relief or potential for relief that we look for in our legislation. And finally, we have a mechanism by which we can, if there is local agreement, if there's local agreement, the local judges have to agree, if there's local agreement we have a mechanism by which we can have some consolidation and merger of offices and that I think will be very positive. I think there will be agreements in the future, and I think it will be useful to the entire system in terms of cutting down costs. So with that, I would ask for your adoption of the amendment. And I...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: (inaudible), Senator Beutler.